

TRANSPORTATION CRISIS

Despite the reconstruction of I-15 and the debut of TRAX, Utah's transportation needs are growing faster than the ability to meet them due to population growth (another 1 million people expected by 2030) and an increase in vehicle travel miles (increase of 66 percent between 1990 and 2002).

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

The movement of goods in Utah is a \$100 billion a year industry. Traffic congestion increases the cost of business due to longer delivery times and more fuel usage. Increased business costs reduce Utah's competitiveness with other regions and stunts local economic growth.

QUALITY OF LIFE IMPACTS

Without improvements in transportation, Utah's high quality-of-life will deteriorate. With the current rate of population growth, time spent in traffic will triple within 25 years. Time spent sitting in traffic cuts into time with family, friends and doing other things we enjoy. Air quality and community health will also suffer.

BENEFITS OF TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT

Investing in transportation means money and jobs for Utah. According to the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of Utah, building needed transportation projects will bring:

- Up to \$4.2 billion in additional federal money by 2030
- Up to 4,000 new jobs and add \$212 million to the state's economy each year

TIMING

The sooner we invest in transportation and move forward with critical highway and transit projects, the more we can protect our future economic vitality and quality of life. An efficient highway and transit system will increase mobility, improve air quality, strengthen major employment centers, increase Utah's competitiveness with other regions and generate additional revenue to fund other state programs.

FUTURE PROJECTS

Several transportation project studies are in process including commuter rail between Weber County and Salt Lake City, the Mid-Jordan TRAX Extension, the West Valley TRAX Extension, the Mountain View Corridor Project, the Draper TRAX Extension, Utah County I-15 expansion, commuter rail in Utah County and the Airport TRAX Extension.